

SECRET

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15. (Secret - JGO) Received from Frank Slatinshek, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, a letter from Representative George E. Brown, Jr. (D., Calif.) to Chairman Nedzi, Intelligence Subcommittee, enclosing a California news item outlining certain charges against the Central Intelligence Agency. Nedzi would appreciate comments for his use in responding to Representative Brown. Howard Osborn, D/S, has been advised.

Discussed with Slatinshek the Andrew Hamilton article entitled "The CIA's Dirty Tricks Under Fire--At Last" reprinted in the Congressional Record by Representative Herman Badillo (D., N.Y.) on which Slatinshek had requested comments for Chairman Nedzi. In brief, I told Slatinshek that our comments on this matter would be little more than an exercise. He asked that I discuss it directly with Chairman Nedzi.

I also discussed with Slatinshek Representative William Bray's (R., Ind.) request for material to be used in Committee reports and a possible magazine article to substantiate the theme that CIA acts only under the direction of the President/National Security Council. Slatinshek agreed that although this is the fact of the matter it is most difficult for treatment in unclassified publications. He agreed that the Agency's confidential booklet on facts about the Agency and the edited Attorney General memorandum of January 1962 concerning the constitutional legal basis for so-called covert activities of the Central Intelligence Agency might fulfill a major portion of Representative Bray's request. He suggested that I talk directly to Bray on the matter.

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With regard to Slatinshek's request for recommendation concerning correspondence received from [REDACTED] I briefed him on available Agency information. Slatinshek will close out both items without further consideration.

I filled Slatinshek in on the intelligence briefing yesterday afternoon of Representative Wayne Owens (D., Utah) on Soviet and Chinese CW/BW warfare. Representative Owens has various items of legislation on the subject of chemical warfare pending before the Armed Services Committee. Slatinshek asked for an informal outline of the information provided to avoid surprise at such time as Committee hearings are scheduled on Owens' bills.

In keeping with the continuing liaison between House Armed Services and House Government Operations Committee, I briefed Slatinshek on our meeting with Herb Roback, Staff Director for the Government Operations Committee, on H.R. 5425. Slatinshek is in agreement with our position on the Government information legislation.

As a final item I mentioned to Slatinshek Bill Hogan's remarks concerning declassification of the Agency transcripts of testimony before the Armed Services Committee on the Watergate matter. Slatinshek told me that this is an area under active consideration in the Committee and suggested that I let Slatinshek know of the possibility that Agency hearings on domestic operations and such matters could start as early as next week. He will advise as soon as he has any definitive information.